



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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December 7, 2005

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director

SUBJECT: 2006 STATE HEALTH REPORT, INITIAL OUTLINE

Background and Summary

RCW 43.20.050(b) requires the State Board of Health to produce a State Health Report every two years "that outlines the health priorities of the ensuing biennium." At its November 9 meeting, the Board approved a motion supporting efforts to incorporate the health policy development activities of the Governor's Office into the *2006 State Health Report*, and it directed Board staff to seek approval from the Governor to delay submission of a draft report until March 10, 2006.

The November Board meeting also included discussion of a proposed timeline for development of the report. The timeline called for the Board to review an outline at its January 11, 2006 meeting and review a discussion draft at its February meeting. It would then approve a preliminary draft and forward it to the Governor's Office for review in March. Later in the meeting, the Board approved a 2006 meeting schedule that listed the February meeting as tentative. Tentatively scheduled meetings are typically not held unless there is pressing business.

Because the February meeting is only tentative, I am trying to accelerate development of the report. Attached for review and comment, therefore, is a proposed outline for the *2006 State Health Report*. At this time I am not recommending Board action. The outline is preliminary. Many of the inputs into the report are fluid. The Governor's Office, for example, has not completed its work plan on health issues. Some of the proposed elements of the report will require the cooperation of partner agencies, not all of which have been consulted. And finally, submission of a preliminary report is three months away, and the structure of a report like this one will often evolve during the drafting phase.

I would like to know at this time, however, if there is general support for the direction suggested by the outline, and am eager to hear Board members' suggestions for improvement.

Recommended Board Action

None.